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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 91 (a)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Colombia* and China: draft resolution

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 1/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 3/ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 4/ the New Partnership for Development as contained in the Cartagena Commitment 5/ and the various agreements, in particular Agenda 21, 6/ which provide an

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

1/ Resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990.

2/ Resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990.

3/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

4/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

5/ See TD/364, part one, sect. A.

6/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I.

overall framework for developing cooperative action to address the development challenges of the 1990s,

Recalling its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended, 7/ on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and its resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992 on the eighth session of the Conference,

Noting the progress made in the implementation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of the outcome of its eighth session and in particular its contribution, within its mandate, to trade and environmental issues,

Noting with concern that the state of the current international economic situation, characterized by slow growth and a fragile economic recovery, have adversely affected the growth and development of the developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of an open, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory and predictable multilateral trading system and a stable international financial environment for economic recovery and growth in all parts of the world economy, particularly in the developing countries,

Noting with serious concern the pervasive intensification and increased application of new protectionist measures in the developed countries,

Emphasizing that the enormous cost of subsidies and protectionist policies, particularly in the areas of agriculture and textiles, has a negative impact on the economic growth and development of all countries, in particular of developing countries,

Recognizing that improved access to external markets and further multilateral trade liberalization is a basic prerequisite for a reactivation of growth in all parts of the world economy, in particular in the developing countries,

Recognizing also with satisfaction the major structural economic reforms, trade policy liberalization and regional economic integration efforts undertaken by developing countries and the fact that those policies have contributed to the expansion of world trade and enhanced the export possibilities and economic growth prospects for all countries,

Recognizing also that regional economic integration processes among developing countries, which have intensified in recent years, impart substantial dynamism to global trade and enhance trade and development possibilities for all countries,

Emphasizing the need for increased international support for the reforms being undertaken by developing countries, including the critical importance of increased global market access for their exports for the success of those reforms,

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7/ See resolutions 2904 (XXVII), 31/2 A and B and 34/3.

Reaffirming the need to give priority to problems facing the least developed countries, owing to the fragility of their economies and their particular vulnerability to external shocks and natural calamities,

Reaffirming the message, as adopted by the Trade and Development Board during the second part of its thirty-ninth session, 8/ addressed to the participants in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, calling for an early, balanced and successful conclusion of the Round as a prerequisite for a return to the path of growth, trade expansion and an improved world economic climate,

Stressing that for the Uruguay Round to be concluded in a balanced manner, all issues of interest to developing countries and their development must be fully taken into account,

Emphasizing that a failure of the Uruguay Round would seriously erode business confidence, intensify trade differences and disputes, retard global economic growth and recovery, encourage and protect uncompetitive sectors of the economy and undermine the outward-oriented reforms being undertaken by developing countries,

Reaffirming the need for a balanced and integrated approach to environment and development issues and reaffirming also the need for a new global partnership for sustainable development,

Recognizing that the complex linkages between trade and environment pose significant challenges to the pursuit of sustainable development and to the maintenance of a free and open trading system,

Welcoming Trade and Development Board decision 402 (XXXIX) of 26 March 1993 on sustainable development and its conclusion, 407 (XL) of 1 October 1993, regarding UNCTAD's contribution to the study of the interlinkages between trade and environment, in the context of sustainable development,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-ninth session 8/ and the first part of its fortieth session 9/ and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to implement the outcome of those sessions;

2. Emphasizes the importance of follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the policies and measures as contained in outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, in particular the Cartagena Commitment; 5/

3. Welcomes the conclusions of the Trade and Development Board, as contained in its reports on the second part of its thirty-ninth session and the first part of its fortieth session, on the international implications of macroeconomic policies and global interdependence as a concrete contribution to

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8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/47/15), vol. I.

9/ Ibid., vol. II.

changing perceptions on issues concerning growth dynamics in various regions, particularly with respect to the conceptual framework, design and implementation of structural adjustment policies;

4. Stresses the urgent need for trade liberalization and improved access to developed country markets, in order to generate global economic growth and development for the benefit of all and, in particular, of the developing countries;

5. Urges the major developed countries to resolve their differences over, inter alia, issues related to agriculture, textiles and clothing, which have delayed progress in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

6. Deplores the repeated delays in concluding the Uruguay Round, largely as a result of the inability of the major developed countries to resolve their differences;

7. Strongly urges all participants in the Uruguay Round, and in particular the major developed countries, to complete, by 15 December 1993, the Uruguay Round negotiations, taking into account all issues of interest to the developing countries and providing a comprehensive market access package on goods and services, covering items of export interest to them;

8. Urges further all participants to give special attention to the least developed countries with a view to enhancing their full participation in the multilateral trading system;

9. Urges developed countries to examine the possibility of reorienting funds currently spent on production subsidies towards international development financing;

10. Emphasizes that an open, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory and predictable multilateral trading system is essential to advancing the goals of sustainable development;

11. Emphasizes that environment and trade policies should be made mutually supportive with a view towards achieving sustainable development;

12. Emphasizes that trade policy measures for environmental purposes should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade and that unilateral actions to deal with environmental challenges outside the jurisdiction of the importing country must be avoided;

13. Urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to continue its special role in the field of trade and environment, including policy analysis, conceptual work and consensus-building, with a view to ensuring transparency and coherence in making environmental and trade policies mutually supportive;

14. Notes the recommendation by the Trade and Development Board that increased attention needs to be paid in the further work of the Conference to environmentally motivated policy instruments with a trade impact, in particular

the impact on export competitiveness and market access and the effect of the internalization of the external cost on sustainable development;

15. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant United Nations bodies, in close cooperation with regional commissions, comprehensively to address trade and environmental matters and submit a report to the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council of 1994, through the Commission on Sustainable Development.